



THE BLUE BRIDGE

The Blue Bridge is one of the City of Grand Rapids most used sites for special occasions. This significant bridge is the oldest railroad bridge in the City built in 1868 and rebuilt in 1892. It was used as the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad Bridge for deliveries traveling between Muskegon and Mackinaw City. When there was no more need for the use of the train in the 1980's, the bridge was restored and painted.

The Blue Bridge has become a pedestrian walkway going across the Grand River between Campau Ave and the Eberhard Center of Grand Valley State University.



Office of
Special Events
CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS



RESTRICTIONS & GUIDELINES

- A **site map** must be provided to display the layout of the event
- All **sound** must be conducted below 85 decibels, metered at the perimeter.
- Any **tape, rope, signs, wire**, etc. that have been placed on the ground, buildings, columns, windows, poles, etc. must be completely removed after the event. Additional fees will be charged if any items are left.
- Vendors/trucks/tables all must have a **mat** underneath to avoid damages to the pavement and catch grease and liquid spills.
- **Staking** is prohibited for tent use. Water barrels are recommended. A separate permit provided by the engineering department will be needed if attaching anything to the bridge.
- All **vehicles**, in front of meters or not, must have a permit supplied by parking services. Vehicles without may be ticketed *Only vehicles dropping off for set-up/tear down are allowed.
- **Parking** is available on Front St. or in the public ramp on Louis/Campau.
- Electrical **cords** are not to be laid across walkways or over mounds for safety reasons. See map for voltage & locations.
- It is required that there is a **clean-up plan** established before the event takes place. There will be an extra fee for damages or any necessary clean up provided by the City.



SEVERE WEATHER DEFINITION

Severe weather involves conditions which can pose health or safety risks to employees or to the public involved in program/ event/facility use. Severe weather examples include: Tornado, Severe Thunderstorms, Lightning, High Winds, Extreme Heat, Extreme Cold, Heavy Snow, Freezing Rain, and Blizzards.

WATCH VS WARNING

SEVERE WEATHER WATCH

- High probabilities of severe weather
- Event continues if weather permits

SEVERE WEATHER WARNING

- Event MC must immediately make an announcement instructing attendees to seek shelter
- Event staff and vendors shut down and turn off any gas or electric components

SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

It is important to have a well thought out and coordinated approach for responding, proceeding and dealing with severe weather. The emphasis is to take reasonable steps towards protecting the public, employees, and property during severe weather.

- Designate a person who will maintain the appropriate communication link (radio, phone, etc.).
- Depending on the event, location, crowd and whether the event is yet to begin, just starting or nearly finished, the staff person in charge may delay or cancel event.
- The staff person in charge will make every effort to secure all equipment.
- When the police officers, fire officers, or other officials are available, their decision to delay or cancel an event should be discussed with the Office of Special Events.

*Refunds will be made at the discretion of the OSE





Bridge Capacity

The Blue Bridge can hold approximately 1,900 people at one time.

Amenities

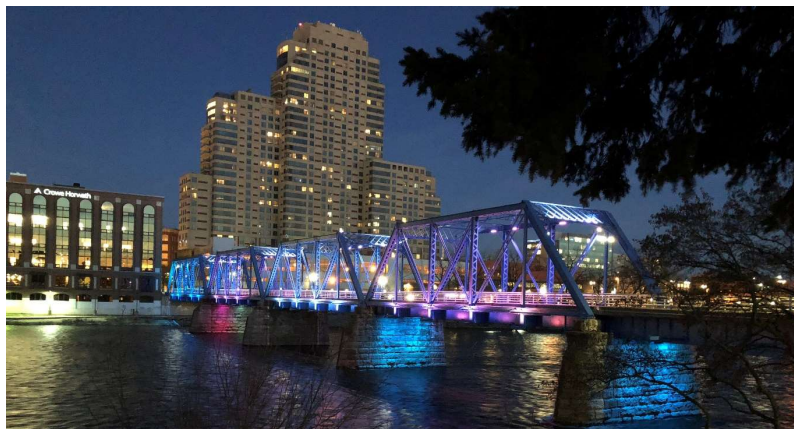
Electric and on the water view.

Bridge Dimensions

The bridge is 25 feet wide and 450 feet long.

Site Rental

There is a cost to rent The Blue Bridge. For a full list of all fees that may apply, please refer to our Planning and Resource Guide at grandrapidsmi.gov/specialevents



Office of Special Events

616-456-3378 | specialevents@grcity.us

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